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Message Text

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73
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /080 W
---------- 099819
R 241340Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6446
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USUN NEW YORK 118

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2712

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, YE, UN
SUBJECT: KOREAN ISSUE AT UN

REF: SANA 2693 AND 2644

1. SUMMARY: SOUTH KOREAN MISSION HAS COMPLETED SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC TO LOBBY ON KOREAN ISSUE IN UN. YARG OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT YEMEN WILL ABSTAIN ON VOTE IN UN AND WILL WITHDRAW SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

2. CHIEF OF ROK TRADE MISSION IN BEIRUT, MIN SON KEUN CHUNG, ARRIVED IN SANA 23 SEPT WITH AIDE FROM ROK EMBASSY IN JIDDA TO LOBBY AGAINST APPARENT DECISION OF YARG TO CO-SPONSOR

HOSTILE UN KOREAN RESOLUTION DESPITE EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT PRESENT YEMENI GOVT INTENDED TO MOVE TO A NEUTRAL POSITION.

3. DCM RANSOM MET CHUNG AT AIRPORT, ARRANGED TRNASPORT AND LODGINGS AND TOGETHER WITH AMB BRIEFED THEM FULLY ON REFTEL DEVELOPMENTS. AMB INTERVENED WITH FONMIN ASNAJ TO GET APPOINTMENTS FOR CHUNG AFTERMOWER LEVELS OF MINISTRY DECLINED
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TO BE OF ASSISTANCE.

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3. ON SEPT 24 CHUNG SAW DEP PRIMIN JEGHMAN, WHO EXPLAINED THAT YARG INTENDS ABSTAIN ON VOTE IN UN AND THAT IT WOULD WITHDRAW ITS SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

4. SCHEDULED MEETING WITH ASNAJ DID NOT OCCUR, DUE TO ENCROACHING PRESSURES OF NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS ON 2/ SEPT, WHEN ONE HEAD OF STATE AND MANY OTHER FOREIGN DIGNITARIES WILL BE IN TOWN.

5. COMMENT: ROK MISSION WAS USEFUL, AND AS WORD GETS AROUND THAT WITHDRAWAL FROM HOSTILE RESOLUTION WAS PRECEDED BY THIS VISIT, IT WILL RUB SALT INTO OTHER WOUNDS WHICH NORTH KOREA, OTHER COMMUNIST STATES HERE HAVE SUFFERED RECENTLY. SAUDIS, IN PARTICULAR, SHOULD BE PLEASED THAT ROK HAS FOLLOWED UP ON VIGOROUS SAUDI EFFORTS MADE AT LIMA AND ELSEWHERE ON BEHALF OF ROK. WE BELIEVE MISSION WAS ALSO IMPORTANT IN ADDING TO CONSIDERABLE AND COORDINATED LOCAL EFFORTS JAPANESE, BRITISH AND WE OURSELVES HAVE MADE LOCALLY. MISSION, HOWEVER, ARRIVED WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE TO YARG IN MIDST OF BIGGEST PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF YEAR, AND PLANNED ONLY TO PROTEST YARG DECISION. THIS COULD HAVE MISFIRED OR EVEN BACKFIRED, AND WE ARE VERY GLAD THAT IT WORKED OUT OTHERWISE. BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT ROK SHOULD NOW FOLLOW UP WITH ASNAJ AT UN, SEEKING EXCHANGE OF EMBASSIES AND AGREEMENT TO MODEST PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION. JAPANESE ARE ON THIS TRACK, WHICH WILL CONTINUE ECLIPSE OF COMMUNIST POSITION IN YEMEN. ROK MOVE NEED NOT BE LARGE BUT COULD USEFULLY BROADEN KOREAN PRESENCE IN MIDDLE EAST, WHICH HAS REACHED SURPRISINGLY LARGE DIMENSIONS IN TRADE LEVELS AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE--I.E., 2000 KOREANS WORKING IN VARIOUS COMPANIES IN SAUDI ARABIA.
SCOTES

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